

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00058 01 OF 02 121326Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 W
-----128263 121331Z /50
R 121215Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3995

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 SOFIA 0058

FOR EUR ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PGEN, BU
SUBJECT: US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN BULGARIA

REF: 77 STATE 291277, 296053, 295602, 304170 AND 307621

1. EMBASSY IS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH EXCELLENT STATE-
MENT OF US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PROVIDED IN REFTELS. WE
WISH TO RECOMMEND SEVERAL CHANGES FOR DEPARTMENT'S CONSI-
DERATION. TEXT FOLLOWS, WITH PROPOSED CHANGES IN BRACKETS.

2. I. ENCOURAGEMENT OF GREATER BULGARIAN INDEPENDENCE
INTERNATIONALLY.

-- INCREASE CMXSULTATIONS WITH BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT
AND PARTY OFFICIALS ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.

-- ENCOURAGE BULGARIA TO MAINTAIN GOOD BILATERAL RELA-
TIONS WITH (NEIGHBORING NATO MEMBER GREECE AND TURKEY,
BEARING IN MIND US OBJECTIVES IN THOSE TWO COUNTRIES).
COMMENT: GOB POLICY TOWARD GREECE AND TURKEY AIMS, WITH
SOVIET APPROVAL, AT WEANING GREECE AND TURKEY AWAY FROM
THEIR NATO PROSPECTIVE EEC LINKS BY INCREASING THEIR
ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE WITH AND POLITICAL TIES TO
BULGARIA. US POLICY ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD REFLECT CLEAR
AWARENESS OF BULGARIAN INTENTIONS. END COMMENT.

-- URGE BULGARIA TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN ITS RELA-
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SECRET

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00058 01 OF 02 121326Z

TIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA (E.G., SEEKING QUIETLY TO DISCOURAGE
ANY EFFORTS TO FAN THE EMBERS OF THE OLD MACEDONIAN
QUESTION).

-- EXPLAIN US POLICY BEARING ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES.
CONSISTENT WITH OUR INTEREST IN PROMOTING BULGARIAN INVOLVE-
MENT IN CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACHES TO NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES,
REPORT TO DEPARTMENT PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS, EMBASSY

ASSESSMENTS, ETC., AS CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT IN WASHINGTON OF MORE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR BILATERAL APPROACHES AND PREPARATIONS FOR MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS.

-- (EXPLAIN US POLICY AND PROJECT AN IMAGE OF AMERICAN SOCIETY.) COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES IT APPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE HERE THE TWO MAJOR USIA OBJECTIVES. END COMMENT.

3. II. ENCOURAGEMENT OF INCREASED INTERNAL LIBERALIZATION, A MORE PLURALISTIC SOCIETY, AND MORE OPENNESS TO OUTSIDE INFLUENCE IN BULGARIA.

-- URGE (FULLER) COMPLIANCE TO PRINCIPLE VII COMMITMENTS AND THE FOUR BASKET III PROVISIONS FOR HUMAN CONTACTS WHEN SEEKING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT: (IN PARTICULAR, URGE FULL IMPLEMENTATION IN THE ARE OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION.) COMMENT: PLACES PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON A MAIN AREA OF DIRECT US CONCERN. END COMMENT.

-- IMPLEMENT FULLY THE RECENTLY-SIGNED (AGREEMENT ON EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION IN CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, EDUCATIONAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND OTHER FIELDS.) COMMENT: SUGGEST GIVING COMPLETE TITLE OF AGREEMENT. END COMMENT.

-- BROADEN AWARENESS OF US CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, (TECHNOLOGICAL AND OTHER) ACHIEVEMENTS.

4. III. (IMPROVEMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS) COMMENT: SUGGEST ADDING BILATERAL RELATIONS AS SEPARATE CATEGORY. END COMMENT.

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SECRET

PAGE 03 SOFIA 00058 01 OF 02 121326Z

-- ENCOURAGE THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT TO (NEGOTIATE) A SETTLEMENT WITH THE FOREIGN BONDHOLDERS PROTECTIVE COUNCIL OF THE CLAIMS OF US BONDHOLDERS.

-- SEEK APPROVAL FOR A US NAVY SHIP VISIT TO A BULGARIAN PORT IN CONNECTION WITH A SHIP VISIT TO A SOVIET BLACK SEA PORT.

-- URGE THE BULGARIAN AUTHORITIES TO REDUCE THE ANTI-AMERICAN CONTENT OF THEIR MEDIA, (AND TO PORTRAY THE US IN MORE BALANCED TERMS.)

-- (CONSIDER A CABINET-LEVEL VISIT TO BULGARIA WHEN THE STATE OF DEVELOPMENT OF US/BULGARIAN RELATIONS WARRANTS.)

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00058 02 OF 02 121327Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3996

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 SOFIA 0058

5. IV. EXPANSION OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC TIES, ESPECIALLY
TRADE.

-- SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION OF TECHNICAL SALES
SEMINARS, (LABOR SEMINARS,) AND (CONTINUED FULL ANNUAL) US
PARTICIPATION IN THE PLOVDIV (TRADE) FAIRS.

--ENCOURAGE BULGARIAN PUBLICATION OF MORE (RELEVANT)
ECONOMIC (AND COMMERCIAL) DATA.

-- SEEK IMPROVED ACCESS FOR AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TO
BULGARIAN END-USERS AND DECISION-MAKERS.

-- (CONSIDER GRANTING BULGARIA MOST-FAVORED-NATION
STATUS SLIGHTLY BEFORE OR ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS THE SOVIET
UNION.) IN THE ABSENCE OF MFN STATUS FOR BULGARIA, CON-
SIDER WAYS TO INCREASE TRADE. COMMENT: WHILE THE GOB
REMAINS NO LESS RESPONSIVE TO SOVIET INTERESTS NOW THAN IN
THE PAST, IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT IT HAS NOT FINALLY
RULED OUT POSSIBILITY OF SEEKING MFN UNDER APPROPRIATE
CONDITIONS, WITH SOVIET ACQUIESCENCE OR TACIT APPROVAL.
BULGARIA'S RELATIVELY CLEAN RECORD ON EMIGRATION WOULD
MAKE IT EASIER FOR IT THAN FOR USSR TO MEET TECHNICAL RE-
QUIREMENTS OF JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT. SUCH A STEP MIGHT
BECOME MORE ACCEPTABLE AND DESIRABLE AS OTHERS, COMPETING
EE COUNTRIES, SUCH AS HUNGARY, RECEIVE MFN. GOB OFFICIALS
CONTINUE TO TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS DESIRE FOR
UNHINDERED ACCESS TO US MARKETS, SHARPENED THESE DAYS BY
THE COUNTRY'S DIFFICULT HARD CURRENCY AND FOREIGN DEBT
POSITION. ENCOURAGEMENT OF SUCH A DEVELOPMENT IN GOB
POLICY WOULD CLEARLY FURTHER MANY OF US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 00058 02 OF 02 121327Z

IN BULGARIA. END COMMENT.

6. IN PREPARING REPORT DUE FEBRUARY 15, IT IS UNCLEAR TO
US WHETHER WE ARE TO PROCEED WITH ANALYSIS ON BASIS OF
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES INCLUDING PROPOSED CHANGES HERE SUB-
MITTED, OR WHETHER WE SHOULD AWAIT DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE
TO OUR PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS. PLEASE CLARIFY THIS POINT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SOFIA00058
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780018-0449
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780169/aaaacgdh.tel
Line Count: 168
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3a37fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 77 STATE 291277
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3782713
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN BULGARIA
TAGS: OGEN, AMGT, PGOV, BU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3a37fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014